



An Early Warning Tool to the epidemics arsenal.

Bridging the gap between the VBD challenge & the solution

**Haris Kontoes Research Director** (Operational Unit BEYOND Centre | IAASARS | NOA) www.beyond-eocenter.eu On behalf of EYWA team





Winner of the first "EIC Horizon Prize on Early Warning for Epidemics"

Learn more here:



**Earth Observation for Epidemics** of Vector-borne Diseases / **EuroGEO Action Group** 









The e-shape project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and



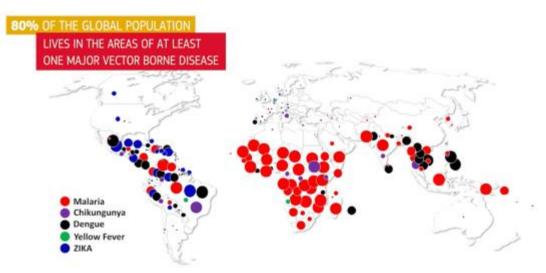








# Introduction | MBDs: A global problem to be addressed



Re-emergence of significant mosquito born disease, including outbreaks, reported native and imported cases (2017-2019)

- ☐ Climate Change, globalisation and other drivers are altering ecological conditions for mosquitoes.
- Mosquito-Borne Diseases (MBDs) are present in over 100 countries.
- ☐ 700,000 deaths per year.
- **Malaria**, most lethal for kids aged under five in the sub-Saharan regions.
- ☐ Europe a "hot spot" of West Nile Virus.
- ☐ Chikungunya and dengue fever increased 40% over 1950¹.

. https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=\$0140-6736(20)32290-X













# **EYWA & West Nile Virus** in Europe

## Greece

- 1702 cases and 227 deaths in the past 12 years.
- EYWA supports 4 regions with a total of 2500 settlements and 3.8M people.

Entomological predictions powered the **BAd** (Ecodev) and **MAMOTH** 

(BEYOND/NOA)

models.

**Epidemiological** risk predictions powered the **BAr** 

(Ecodev) and MIMESIS (Uni of Patras) models.

## Italy

- EYWA supports 2 regions with a total 757 municipalities and 540K people.
- Entomological risk predictions powered by the **MAMOTH** (BEYOND/NOA) model.
- **Epidemiological** predictions powered BAr the (Ecodev) and MIMESIS (Uni of Patras) models.







### Serbia

- Vojvodina region municipalities and I.9M people.
- Entomological predictions powered by the **MAMOTH** (BEYOND/NOA) model.







- ☐ West Nile Virus outbreaks have been registered in all of **southern Europe**.
- Starting to register cases in 2010, the disease had extreme outbreaks in multiple countries in 2018 with 1549 cases and **166** deaths in a year.
- In 2022 there is another outbreak ongoing in cases with 939 cases and 68 deaths so far.
- Overall 4989 cases and 437 deaths in the past 12 years.
- EYWA supports II regions in Europe for a total of 10.909 municipalities and more than **34M people** living in them.

## **Germany**

- **Baden-Württemberg** region municipalities and II.IM people.
- Entomological risk predictions powered by the MAMOTH (BEYOND/NOA) model.





### **France**

- 3 regions / 9935 municipalities and ~12 M people.
- Entomological risk predictions powered by the MAMOTH (BEYOND/NOA) model.









## **EYWA & MBDs in Ivory Coast**

## **Mosquito Threats in Ivory Coast:**

- Aedes Aegypti spread Dengue Fever, Chikungunya, Yellow fever, Zika fever and more disease agents
- Anopheles spread Malaria

### Malaria in 2020:

**26.378.275 population at risk**, 7.434.595 suspected cases, 4.587.859 confirmed cases, 2.252.312 in children under 5, 103.947 severe cases, 1.315 deaths.

## **Dengue fever** outbreaks:

- 2017<sup>3</sup>: 623 **suspected** cases, 2
- MAMOTH Outbreaks in Abidjap EYWA model 6.321.017.
- https://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countrie
- already established operationally. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/art
- https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-c 2017-dengue-cote-d-ivoire-en
- https://www.africanews.com/2022/05/04/den II-cases-recorded-in-ivory-coast//

## **EYWA & MBDs in Thailand**

### **Dengue fever:**

- Dengue is hyper-endemic and serotypes are in active circulation in Thailand (home to around 69 million individuals).
  - Two dominant dengue mosquito vectors, Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus
- Each of the 77 provinces in Thailand have on average, non-zero reported dengue case counts over the past 10 years.
- Large outbreaks in 2013, 2015 and 2019 with 153.765. 141.375 and 128,964 respectively<sup>2</sup>.

## Chikungunya:

- MAMOTH EYWA Thailand experienced outbrea Transferable 2009 (40.000) model enabled cooperation with 2009  $(49.069 \text{ cases}^3)$ , and Thailand and (approximately 15.000 cases<sup>4</sup>).
  - https://bmcinfectdis.biomedcentral.com/articles/19
  - stakeholders Ghana http://outbreaknewstoday.com/thailand-infectious-dis measles-dengue-and-melioidosis-30041/

EUROGED GED GROUP ON GOOFTRICUS

- https://www.ajtmh.org/view/journals/tpmd/90/3/article-
- https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33690657/

## MBDs in Ghana

### Malaria (2020 data):

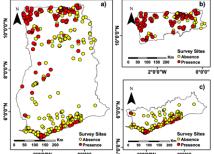
☐ 31.072.945 population at risk, 5.879.506 suspected & confirmed cases. 12.084 estimated deaths.

## Lymphatic Filariasis (2017 data):

- ☐ A cumulative total of over 74M people were treated, giving an estimate of large number of people affected.
- 22 districts defined as "hotspots" (even after mass drug administration programs) with virus prevalence above the recommended 1% level.
- Vector control has been shown to greatly impact the transmission of LF<sup>1,2</sup>, with vector control strategies.
- EYWA can make an impact by guiding these strategies.

I.https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/10.1146/annurev.ento.54.110807.090626

2.https://journals.plos.org/plosntds/article?id=10.1371/journal.pntd.0005280#



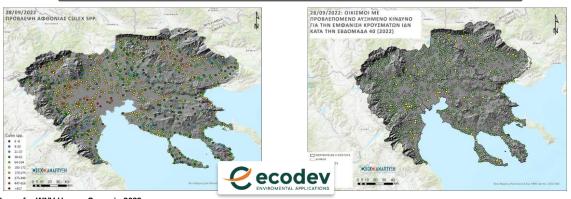


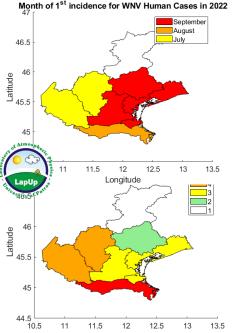
The e-shape project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 820852

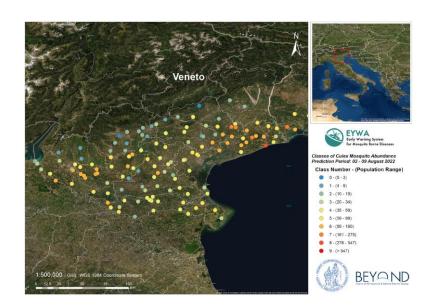


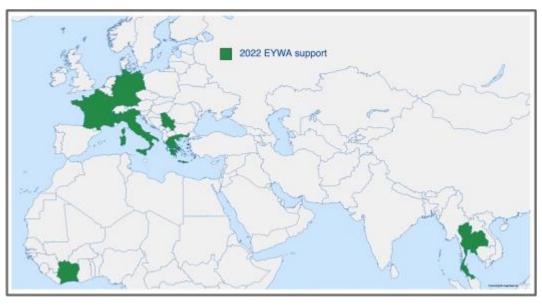


# Working towards a solution









## What does EYWA offer?

A couple of weeks/one month earlier it informs on mosquito abundance and pathogen transmission and suggests preventive and awareness door-to-door actions in the villages at risk





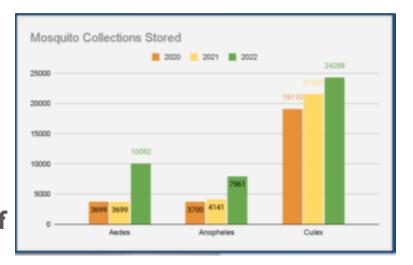


## **After EYWA**

# **EYWA** set the stage for:

- □ Data centralization in a common database
- □ Big features spaces of environment al, entomological, health, socioeconomic, climatic data
- □ Validated TransferLearning models

# A fragmented landscape





## **Before EYWA:**

- ☐ Siloed collections Entomological & epidemiological records
- ☐ Lack of data providing dynamics:
  - Environment, weather, landscapes hosting areas mosquitoes
- □ No Standardization in feature engineering to feed AI/Dynamic forecasting models
- **☐** No robust/transferable solutions



MAMOTH generic

auto-calibrated

through the

**NEXTGEOSS** G€9SS Portal

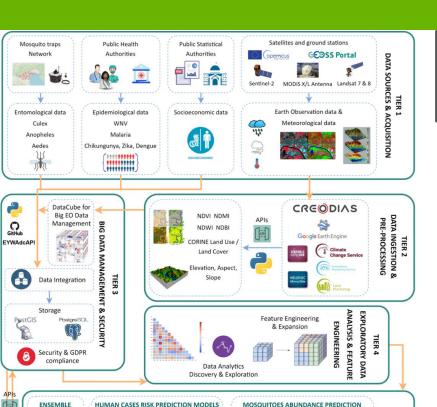
site-specific

data-driven

model

visualization





# What/Where does EYWA provide as models for **Early Warning?**

## **WNV** risk

- MIMESIS (Univ. of Patras)
  - Municipality level.
  - **Monthly** predictions.
  - Predicted probability/number of WNV cases & expected first week of registered case.
- **BAr (ECODEV)** 
  - Settlement level
  - Weekly predictions
  - Predicted probability WNV case.

## **Mosquito Abundance**

- **BAd (ECODEV)** abundance model
  - Settlement level
  - **Weekly** predictions
- ☐ MAMOTH (NOA)
  - Point/Trap level.
  - **Aggregate** predictions for any larger area
  - Biweekly/Monthly predictions.



MODELS

Mosquitoes abundance and human cases risk prediction

Reports for end-users



## In a nutshell

- ☐ **EYWA** is an established **impactful** & **transferable** Early Warning System.
- ☐ The system is **expanding** each year **to new regions** dealing with different climatic & socioeconomic conditions.
- ☐ The **sustainability** issue per use case is carefully examined and justified only if Institutional users are actively involved as co-designers
- ☐ Models are adapted in providing **early warning** and guiding **targeted** larviciding and **door to door** awareness based on **user feedback** at the end of each mosquito season
- ☐ The identification of means/channels/networks to disseminate the EYWA products are first ranked priorities
- ☐ Established and **standard collection and access** to EO and in-situ entomological and health records are key aspects that EYWA highlights and prioritize to involved authorities
- ☐ Highlights the power of **EO** in supporting **Communities** and **Health Systems** around the world and as an Action Group seeks for synergies with on-going projects and initiatives (e.g. EO4Health).





# Thank you!



**Earth Observation for Epidemics** of Vector-borne Diseases / **EuroGEO Action Group** 

Euro & >

## Contact us

kontoes@noa.gr

(Coordinator of EuroGEO Action Group for Epidemics) (Lead Partner of EYWA)



The e-shape project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and

## 18 Partners | 7 Countries

#### Greece

National Observatory of Athens (NOA) – BEYOND Centre of EO Research & Satellite Remote Sensing

Ecodevelopment S.A

University of Patras – Physics Department - Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics (LapUP)

Dimitrios Vallianatos (IDCOM)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

University of Thessaly, Medical School. Laboratory of Hygiene and Epidemiology

### Italy

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSVe)

Edmund Mach Foundation

University of Trento

### Serbia

University of "Novi Sad", Faculty of Agriculture, Laboratory for Medical and Veterinary Entomology

Scientific Veterinary Institute "Novi Sad"

University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine

### **Germany**

German Mosquito Control Association (KABS)

Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine

### **France**

EID Méditerranée

### **European Commission**

Joint Research Center

### **Ivory Coast**

Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Côte d'ivoire

### **Thailand**

Vector Biology and Vector Borne Disease Research Unit, Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University



EUROGEO GEO GROUP ON GOOGRATIONS COORMICUS